

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | Group Art Unit: 1635 |
| |) | |
| Luz Montesclaros et al. |) | Examiner: Richard A. Schnizer, Ph.D. |
| |) | |
| Serial No.: 10/618,493 |) | Confirmation Number: 5407 |
| |) | |
| Filed: July 11, 2003 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: METHODS AND KITS FOR |) | |
| OBTAINING NUCLEIC ACID |) | |
| FROM BIOLOGICAL |) | |
| SAMPLES |) | |
| |) | |

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants now respond to the Non-final Office Action mailed January 11, 2007, (the "Office Action"). The period to respond has been extended three months by the Petition for Three Month Extension of Time filed herewith. Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from **Deposit Account No. 01-2213 (Order No. 5063)**.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.